

**State Board of Architects**

**v.**

**Joseph E. Saphire**

**Respondent**

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**BEFORE THE**

**STATE BOARD OF**

**ARCHITECTS**

**Agency Case No.: 17-AR- 03**

### **Consent Order**

This matter comes before the State Board of Architects ("Board") as the result of an audit of continuing education contact hours conducted by the Board in connection with the May 17, 2016 renewal application of Joseph E. Saphire ("Respondent"). As a result of the audit, it was determined that the Respondent did not complete the required hours of continuing education for renewal of the license. As a means of resolving this matter, the Board and the Respondent have agreed to enter into this Consent Order, and agree and stipulate to the following:

1. On May 17, 2016, the Respondent submitted an application for the renewal of his architect's license, License No. 14658, for the renewal period of 2016-2018.
2. Pursuant to Section 3-309.1(a) (1), Business Occupations and Professions Article, Maryland Annotated Code, the Respondent was required to complete 24 hours of continuing education instruction or learning units ("LUs") during the 24 month period preceding the renewal date of May 17, 2016.
3. The Respondent failed to complete the required number of hours, but on the application for renewal certified that the continuing education requirements for renewal of the license had been fulfilled. The Respondent's failure to have all of the continuing

education contact hours prior to the renewal of his license is a violation of Section 3-309.1(a) (1) of the Business Occupations and Professions Article, Maryland Annotated Code.

4. The Respondent agrees to pay a fine in the amount of One Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$1,700.00) in connection with the violation of Sections 3-311(a)(1)(5) and 3-309.1, Business Occupations and Professions Article, Maryland Annotated Code, for failure to have the continuing education hours prior to submitting the application for renewal and certifying that he had completed the required hours. The fine is to be paid within thirty (30) days of the date of this Consent Order. Further, the Respondent will complete the continuing education required to make up the additional 17 PDH's needed for the renewal of the license.

5. The Respondent waives the right to the issuance of a statement of charges and a formal hearing on a charge of violation in this matter, and where the Respondent would have the opportunity to present a defense to the charges.

6. The Respondent agrees that if he fails to comply with the terms of this Consent Order, the Respondent's license will immediately be suspended by the Board, without a hearing on the suspension, and that the suspension will continue until the Respondent evidences compliance. The Respondent recognizes that should the license be suspended, the Board is required to notify the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards of the suspension of license.

7. The Respondent and the Board understand that this Consent Order will serve as the Final Order in this matter and be a part of the Respondent's licensing record that is

maintained by the Board. The Board's records and publications will reflect the terms of the Consent Order.

WHEREFORE, based on these stipulations and agreements, it is hereby this

2<sup>ND</sup> day of May, 2017, ORDERED by the State Board of

Architects:

A. That the Respondent has been found to have violated Section 3-309.1(a) (1), Business Occupations and Professions Article, Maryland Annotated Code;

B. That the Respondent shall pay a fine of One Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$1,700.00) in connection with the violation, within thirty (30) days of the date of this Consent Order and complete the required 17 PDEs needed for renewal of the license;

C. That in the event the terms and conditions of this Consent Order are not met by the Respondent, the Board shall immediately suspend the Respondent's architect's license, without a hearing on the suspension, and that the suspension will continue until such time as the Respondent evidences compliance with the terms of this Consent Order, and that the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards be notified of the suspension of license; and,

D. That the records of the Board shall reflect that this matter was resolved with this Consent Order.

Signatures on File